(c) if so, the national heritages which will be included in it and by when the second stage of this scheme will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Oil Foundation (IOF) has been set up as a non-profit trust by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) to protect, preserve and promote the national heritage of India.

(b) and (c) Five heritage sites have been taken up for development in the first phase. The IOF intends to develop one heritage site in each State / UT. Accordingly, in due course, a site in the State of Gujarat will also be taken up. A number of formalities have to be completed for development of each site, involving various agencies and State Governments. The plans for the second phase will depend on the trend of development in the first phase.

Removal of Government control on prices of petroleum products

1800. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government control on the prices of Petroleum products has to go by April 2002; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) In November, 1997, Government had notified the details of dismantling of administered pricing mechanism in phases to attain full deregulation from April, 2002 onwards in petroleum sector.

(b) The implementation of phased programme commenced on 1.4.1998 and the progress made so far include the following:—

(i) the system of retention pricing for all the refineries has been abolished with effect from 1.4.1998. The refinery gate prices of controlled petroleum products are being fixed on *principle of import parity.*

(ii) The subsides on domestic LPG and kerosene for public distribution have been reduced by making corrections in the consumer prices from time to time. The consumer prices of diesel are being fixed on *import parity* basis.

(iii) The pricing of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) has been decontrolled with effect from 1.4.2001.

(iv) Private and Joint Sector refineries have been permitted to import crude oil freely without import license for actual use in their own refineries.

(v) Import / export of furnace oil has been decanalized in July, 1998. Naphtha exports has also been decanalised in July, 1998. The exports of motor spirit (MS) high speed diesel (HSD) and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) have been decanalized effective October, 1999.

Re-appointment of contract employees in EIL

1801. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) have decided in the year 2000 that contract engineers who have left EIL on account of completion of contract will be considered for 50 per cent of vacancies / requirment of Management trainees;

(b) if so, the details of contract in Employees considered for appointment after the above decision so far;

(c) the number of contract engineers who have been removed from service month-wise during the last two years; and

(d) the number of management trainees who have been recruited by EIL during the last two years and criterion adopted for selection of trainees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) EIL has decided that 50% of vacancies/requirements of Management Trainees will be filled on an annual basis from contract engineers working in the Company or who have left the services of the Company on account of completion of contract period/ foreclosure of contract and are meeting the selection criteria.